



General Assembly

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10 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
FOR THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN
THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS
DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY
IN AFRICA

Ninth session
3-13 September 1996
Agenda item 7

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS NINTH SESSION

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Anatoli M. Ovchinnikov (Uzbekistan)

I. INTRODUCTION

Opening and duration of the session

1. The ninth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, was held in New York from 3 to 13 September 1996. The session was convened in accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 50/112 of 20 December 1995 entitled "Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in those countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa". At its ninth session, the Committee held ___ meetings (1st to ___).

II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. Officers of the Committee

2. At its 2nd meeting, on 6 September, the Committee was informed that Ms. A. K. Ahuja (India), Vice-Chairman of the Committee, and



Mr. Nikita F. Glazovsky (Russian Federation), Rapporteur of the Committee, were unable to continue their functions on the Bureau. The Committee thereupon elected Mr. Alok Jain (India) as Vice-Chairman and Mr. Anatoli M. Ovchinnikov (Uzbekistan) as Rapporteur by acclamation. The Committee then elected by acclamation Mr. Samvel Baloyan (Armenia) as Vice-Chairman of Working Group II to replace Mr. Ovchinnikov (Uzbekistan).

3. The Bureau of the Committee, as elected at its sixth, eighth and ninth sessions, is as follows:

Chairman: Mr. Bo Kjellén (Sweden)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. René Valéry Mongbe (Benin)
Mr. Alok Jain (India)
Mr. José Urrutia (Peru)

Rapporteur: Mr. Anatoli M. Ovchinnikov (Uzbekistan)

Working Group I

Chairman: Mr. Mohamed Mahmoud Ould El Ghaouth (Mauritania)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. Mohammad Reza H. K. Jabbary (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Mr. Erwin Ortiz-Gandarillas (Bolivia)
Mr. Franklin C. Moore (United States of America)

Working Group II

Chairman: Mr. Takao Shibata (Japan)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. David Etuket (Uganda)
Mr. Samvel Baloyan (Armenia)

B. Adoption of the agenda

4. At its 1st meeting, on 3 September, the Committee adopted the following agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Preparation for the Conference of the Parties.
3. Special action:
 - (a) Urgent action for Africa;
 - (b) Action taken in the Asian, Latin American and the Caribbean, and Northern Mediterranean regions.
4. Status of signature and ratification of the Convention.

5. Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds.
6. Adoption of the provisional agenda for the tenth session.
7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its ninth session.

C. Attendance

5. Representatives of the following States attended the session:

(To be included.)

6. The following United Nations offices and organs were represented:

(To be included.)

7. The following specialized agencies were represented:

(To be included.)

8. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented:

(To be included.)

9. The following non-governmental organizations were represented:

(To be included.)

D. Documentation

10. The documents before the Committee at its ninth session are listed in annex __ to the present report (to be included).

E. Accreditation of non-governmental organizations

11. At its 2nd meeting, on 6 September, the Committee, bearing in mind paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 47/188 of 22 December 1992 and rule 49 of the rules of procedure of the Committee (A/AC.241/3), decided to approve the accreditation of the non-governmental organizations listed in document A/AC.241/9/Add.12 (see annex __, decision 9/1 (to be included)).



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INTERGOVERNMENTAL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE FOR
THE ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES
EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR
DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA
Ninth session
New York, 3-13 September 1996

PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Draft decision submitted by the Chairman of the Committee

Designation of a Permanent Secretariat and arrangements for its functioning: physical location

The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

Noting with gratitude the offers of the Governments of Canada, Germany and Spain, contained in documents A/AC.241/55/Add.1, Add.2 and Add.3, to host the Permanent Secretariat at Montreal, Bonn and Murcia, respectively,

1. Requests the Chairman of the Committee to establish a contact group, which will have appropriate participation by the Governments of Canada, Germany and Spain, to clarify these offers as necessary and to discuss appropriate procedures enabling the first session of the Conference of the Parties to take a decision on this matter;

2. Requests the Secretariat to present, in consultation with the three Governments concerned, for consideration at the tenth session of the Committee, a document comparing the major elements of the three offers;

3. Decides to consider this item further in plenary meetings at its tenth session on the basis of the deliberations of the contact group established in accordance with paragraph 1 and the document requested in paragraph 2.

